

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) A survey for this line has been included in Budget, 1997-98.

(c) Does not arise.

Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express Train

434. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the route of Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express train to Jodhpur, Divisional Railway Headquarter which is an important town of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) There is no proposal to extend 9767/9768 Madras-Jaipur Express upto Jodhpur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resources constraints.

Power Project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam

435. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh have met the Prime Minister for clearance of 1000 MW power project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister have agreed and promised to clear all the projects mentioned by the Chief Minister; and

(c) if so, the latest position in regard to these project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister in May,

1997 for clearance of the 1000 MW Simhadri Project of NTPC. The project has since received investment approval of Government of India.

Telephone on Priority

436. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections allotted on out-of-turn/priority basis during the last six months in various metropolitan cities;

(b) whether the Government are considering for restoration of facility/special quota provided to MPs with suitable modification; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) So far as the facility/special quota provided from time to time to Hon'ble MPs for recommendation of Twenty Five out of turn telephone connections anywhere in India is concerned, the question of restoration does not arise as the status-quo is being maintained.

Unutilised Funds

437. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated to various States for Tele-communications projects network remain unutilised or surrendered;

(b) if so, the details of the amount unutilised/surrendered by each Telecom Circle in Maharashtra State during the last three years and reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/proposed in the light of experiences gain so far; and

(d) the details of revised allocation of funds for the current year and progress of works for projects in Vidarbha region in particular upto 30.6.97 and reasons for delay if any, Telegraph circle-wise in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The information has been called for from the concerned unit. The same will be placed

on the table of the House.

Removal Of Freight Equalisation System

438. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Steel majors seek removal of freight equalisation" appearing in the Telegraph dated June 17, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A committee has been constituted to study the impact of partial withdrawal of freight equalisation scheme on consumption, availability and use of various categories of steel in different parts of the country. Main producers, viz., SAIL, TISCO and VSP, have made representations to the Committee, which is chaired by the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel. The Government is yet to receive the report of the Committee.

Energy parks

439. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up energy parks in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such parks set up in the country during each of the last three years, location-wise;

(c) whether there is any scheme for implementing these schemes with public participation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has set-up 86 Renewable Energy Parks in 18 States of the country. State and year-wise details of Renewable Energy Park Projects sanctioned during each of the last three years i.e. 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the attached Statement.

(c) and (d) The Renewable Energy Park Projects are set up by the State Govt. Nodal Agencies through various educational and other institutions where there is large inflow of public

Statement

State and Year-wise Details of Renewable Energy Park Projects Sanctioned

S. No.	States	Years		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	9	—
2.	Assam	—	2	—
3.	Delhi	—	6	—
4.	Gujarat	—	3	—
5.	Haryana	—	3	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	3	—
7.	Karnataka	1	4	3
8.	Kerala	—	11	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1	4	2
10.	Maharashtra	—	4	1
11.	Mizoram	—	1	—
12.	Orissa	—	3	1
13.	Punjab	—	9	—
14.	Rajasthan	—	3	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	—	5	—
16.	Tripura	—	1	—
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1	2	1
18.	West Bengal	1	1	—
Total		4	74	8

Total : (3)+(4)+(5) : 4+74+8 = 86

Supply of Power to States

440. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for supply of power to the states from Central Pool; and